Applicants: Ron S. Israeli et al.

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The Examiner rejected claims 97 and 102-104 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The Examiner asserted that the specification as originally filed provides no support for antibody binding to peptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No: 38. The Examiner stated that the original claims 35 and 36, and pages 17, 55-55 as set forth by applicants does not provide support for antibody binding to peptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 38.

In response, but without conceding the correctness of the Examiner's position and to expedite the prosecution of the subject application, applicants haveinabove canceled claims 97 and 102-104 without prejudice, thereby rendering this ground of rejection moot.

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 94-96, and 98-101.

• If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee, except FOUR HUNDRED AND SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$475.00) for a three-month extension of time fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge Applicants: Ron S. Israeli et al.

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the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-1325.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 28,678 Albert Wai-Kit Chan Registration No. 36,479

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

2/9/98 allui Wig (WICL Albert Wai-Kit Chan Date

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